

Message Text

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44

ACTION SCI-06

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, TGEN

SUBJ: SPACE: NEW PRESIDENT OF FRENCH SPACE AGENCY

DEPT PASS NASA

SCI FOR POLLACK

1. PROFESSOR MAURICE LEVY WAS NAMED YESTERDAY AS PRESIDENT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OF THE CENTRE NATIONAL D'ETUDES SPATIAL (CNES) (THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR SPACE RESEARCH), REPLACING PROF. JEAN FRANCOIS DENISSE.

2. LEVY SERVED AS SCIENCE COUNSELOR IN THE FRENCH EMBASSY WASHINGTON FROM 1968 TO 1970. SINCE 1971 HE HAS BEEN HEADING AN ADVISORY GROUP ON SPACE AND OCEANOGRAPHY IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL AND SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENT. HEAVILY INVOLVED IN INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS, HE IS CHAIRMAN OF ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OF EUROPEAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANIZATION AND WAS INVOLVED IN FOUNDING OF INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED SYSTEMS ANALYSIS (AT VIENNA). BORN IN ALGERIA, THE 52-YEAR OLD LEVY

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ORIGINALLY MADE HIS MARK AS A SCIENTIFIC RESEARCHER. HE STILL

HOLDS CHAIR OF THEORETICAL AND HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF PARIS.

3. COMMENT: LEVY'S APPOINTMENT COMES AS SLIGHT SURPRISE.

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AT END OF YEAR BUT THOUGHT THAT HE WAS NO LONGER UNDER CONSIDER-
ATION FOR THE CNES POSITION OWING TO HIS LUKEWARM RELATIONS WITH
MINISTER CHARBONNEL AND ESPECIALLY CHARBONNEL'S STAFF. HOWEVER,
IN PAST MONTHS, HIS RELATIONS WITH HARBONNEL IMPROVED. LEVY'S
CONTINUANCE AMONT THE TOP FRENCH SCIENCE POLICYMAKERS IS A PLUS
FOR US INTEREST AS HE UNDERSTANDS THE US AND HAS BEEN REASON-
ABLY SYMPATHETIC TO OUR PROBLEMS.

IRWIN

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Message Attributes

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